



Electrical Lights, Receptacle & Switch Installation Inspection Checklist

*This list comprises some of the most common electrical code violations in residential additions and remodels. It **does not** address every possible violation, **nor** is it intended as an instruction manual.*

Switches & Lights

General Installation

- ☐ Light outlet boxes must be grounded.
- ☐ Cables must be clamped to boxes or to florescent fixture enclosure.
- ☐ Fixtures must not depend solely on “toggle” or “moly” type fasteners for support.
- ☐ If outdoors, must be listed for “damp” or “wet” location.

Switched Lighting Outlets Required *NEC 210-70

- ☐ Kitchens must have a separately switched energy efficient (i.e. fluorescent) general lighting source.
- ☐ All habitable rooms (can be switched receptacle)
- ☐ Bathrooms must have a separately switched energy efficient (i.e. fluorescent) light in either the water closet, vanity or shower/tub area.
- ☐ Kitchen, bathrooms, hallways, stairways, at HV/AC equipment, basements and exterior doors must have a switched light fixture *NEC 210-70
- ☐ No switches or receptacles within tub or shower enclosure.

Closet Light Clearance To Storage Area, (assume storage is 12” width or use the actual width of the shelf). *NEC 410-8

Receptacles

General Installation

- ☐ If multi-gang or metal box, cable must be clamped to box.
- ☐ Metal boxes shall be grounded *NEC 370-4, 250-86
- ☐ Circuits must be grounded or ground fault (GFCI) protected.
- ☐ No receptacles allowed within tub or shower enclosure.
- ☐ New bathroom receptacle outlets must be on a dedicated 20 amp circuit.
- ☐ New laundry receptacle outlets must be on a dedicated 20 amp circuit.
- ☐ Boxes must be flush with combustible finishes or 1/4" maximum from noncombustible finishes *NEC 370-20
- ☐ Boxes must be made up for rough inspection– City Policy
- ☐ Box fill – light junction box fill *NEC 370-16
- ☐ Unused openings must be closed *NEC 370-18
- ☐ Ceiling fan support *NEC 422-18
- ☐ Branch circuit installations must comply with

- ☐ 6" for recessed incandescent and surface fluorescent.
- ☐ 12" for surface incandescent
- ☐ No exposed bulbs allowed

Title 24 Requires

- ☐ Fluorescent fixtures in kitchens and bathrooms – (controlled by own switch)
- ☐ Recessed lights to be listed for direct contact with installation (I.C. rated) and covered with insulation if installed in an insulated ceiling.

Recessed Lights

- ☐ Recessed fixtures in insulated ceilings must be "I.C." rated.
- ☐ Where allowed, non I.C. rated recessed lights require ½" space from combustible materials *NEC 410-66(a)(1)

N.M. Cable

- ☐ Stapled (Supported)
 - Every 4 ½' * NEC 336-18
 - Within 8" of single gang box w/o clamps *NEC 370-17 (c)
 - Within 12" of box with clamps *NEC 336-18
- ☐ N.M. Cable through bored holes and notches with less than 1-¼" of wood cover require protection *NEC 300-4(a)
- ☐ 6" free conductor required at boxes *NEC 300-14

Note: Both electrical and mechanical permits are required for an AC installation.

NEC

- ☐ If outdoors, must be listed for "damp" or "wet" location.

Check Receptacle Locations & Spacing *NEC 210-52

- ☐ General Rule – Wall 2' or more wide and not more than 6' to a receptacle *NEC 210-52 (a)
- ☐ Kitchen counter tops *NEC 210-52 (c)
 - Counter 12" or more and not more than 24' to a receptacle
 - At least 1 outlet per islands
 - 1 each end for Peninsulas
- ☐ Hallway 10' or more, 1 required *NEC 210-52 (h)
- ☐ Laundry area, 1 required *NEC 210-52 (f)
- ☐ Basement and Garages, 1 required *NEC 210-52 (g)
- ☐ Bathroom, 1 adjacent to each basin required *NEC 210-52 (d)
- ☐ Exterior receptacles, at the front and back of the dwelling required *NEC 210-52 (e)

Receptacles That Require GFCI Protection *NEC 210-8

- ☐ Kitchen counters and wet bars
- ☐ Bathroom receptacles
- ☐ All exterior receptacles, including elevated decks with direct grade access.
- ☐ Crawl spaces and unfinished basements
- ☐ In garage (unless dedicated to fixed appliance)

***1999 National Electrical Code**